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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0285

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Michael S. H. CHU) Group Art Unit: 3731
)
Serial No.: 10/000,325) Examiner: M. H. THALER
)
Filed: December 4, 2001)
) Confirmation No.: 3731
For: ENDOSCOPIC APPARATUS AND)
METHOD)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In a restriction requirement dated April 30, 2004, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between:

- I. Claims 1-39 allegedly drawn to an endoscopic device; and
- II. Claims 40-60 allegedly drawn to a method of performing an operative procedure.

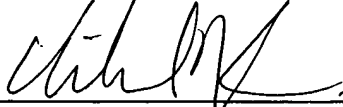
Applicant provisionally elects to prosecute Group I, claims 1-39 allegedly drawn to an endoscopic device, without traverse.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 25, 2004

By: 
Michael W. Kim
Reg. No. 51,880